

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 658

Introduced by Assembly Member Liu
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Berg, Hancock, and Karnette)
(Coauthors: Senators Kuehl and Romero)

February 17, 2005

An act relating to inmates.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 658, as introduced, Liu. Women inmates.

Existing law establishes various alternative sanctions for male and female nonviolent offenders, including community correctional centers, community correctional reentry centers, substance abuse community correctional detention centers, restitution centers, and community based punishment programs. Existing law also establishes the Pregnant and Parenting Women's Alternative Sentencing Act, to provide alternative facilities for women who are pregnant or parents of children 6 years of age and younger.

This bill would require the Department of Corrections to develop a pilot program that creates expanded incarceration options for nonviolent women offenders. The bill would require the director of the department to appoint a deputy director of women's programs to oversee that pilot program and the development of reforms that effectively address the risks and needs of women inmates and their children.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Department of Corrections shall
2 develop a pilot program that creates expanded incarceration
3 options for nonviolent women offenders. Those options may
4 include, but are not limited to, community correctional facilities
5 that house women inmates closer to their families, re-entry
6 facilities to support the transition from prison to the community,
7 and facilities designed to address the needs of parole violators
8 who are appropriate for less restrictive sanctions. The Legislature
9 intends that this pilot program be operated within existing
10 resources of the department.
- 11 (b) The Director of Corrections shall appoint a deputy director
12 for women's programs to oversee the development of reforms
13 that effectively address the risks and needs of women inmates
14 and their children.